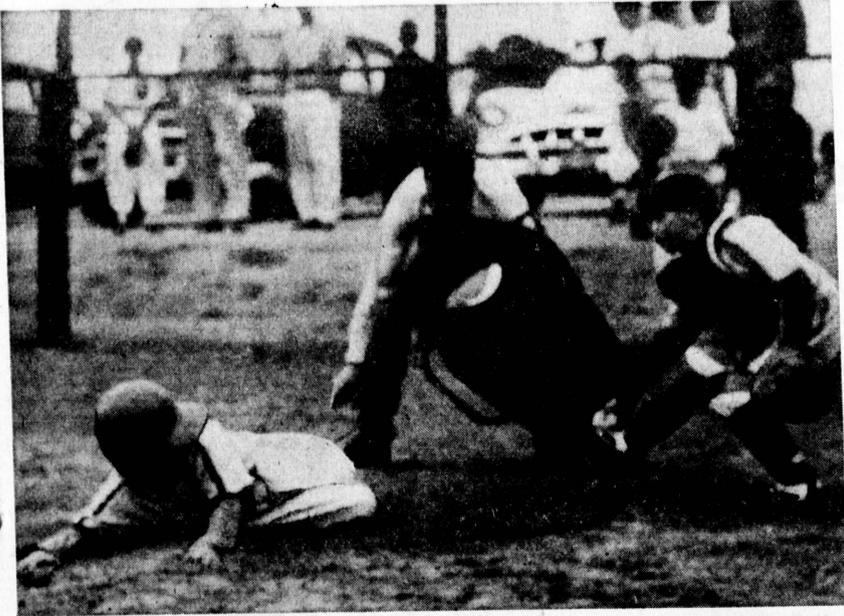


City Little Leaguers Busy on Area's Ball Diamonds



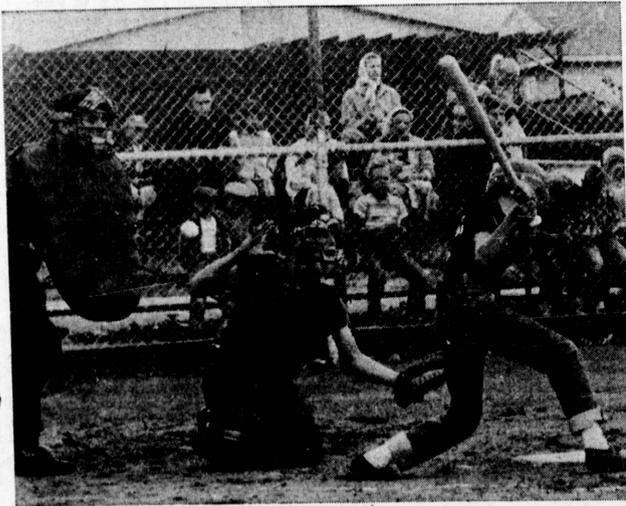
SAFE AT HOME . . . Gerald Keene is called safe by umpire as he beat out a throw from third baseman to earn a run for the Athletics in their game with the Pirates in

Tordondo Little League play at Carson Bowl. Catcher Kelly Johnson made a valiant try to tag runner. (Herald photo)



CAMERA DOESN'T LIE . . . Craig Steinburg, Yank player, was called out by umpire in game played Saturday with Cards in Torrance Central Little League competition on

General Petroleum Field. Catcher Larry Easley was a split-second late in tagging Larry, who hit the chalk in a professional slide home. (Herald photo)



SOUTHPAW . . . Bob Vroman knocks out a line drive for a single for the Padres in Southwood Little League game played last Saturday with the Palos Verdes Laundromatic nine. Larry Procter is catcher for the visitors. (Herald photo)



LITTLE LITTLE LEAGUER . . . Pee Wee Hanson is the official mascot for the Little League Angels and is pictured leaving his team's dugout during game last Saturday. Pee Wee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss Hanson, has a special baseball suit and glove. (Herald photo)

YOUR SECOND FRONT PAGE

Torrance Herald

EDITORIALS * * * FEATURES * * * WANT ADS

MAY 28, 1959 TORRANCE HERALD Twenty-five



CLOSE CALL . . . Rick Hanson beat out a throw to third base and was called safe by umpire in Angels' Babe Ruth baseball game at Central Field Saturday. Cris Chris Patrick, who plays third base for Dons, made good try to tag runner. (Herald photo)

Little League

Things were very proper at the North Torrance Babe Ruth Opening Saturday, May 16, when Ron "Sparky" Davidson smacked a grand slam home run in the third inning of the first game of the league opening double header to lead the Cubs to a 6-2 victory over the Cardinals. In the second game of the afternoon, the Red Legs took the Giants, 9-7. Sunday games concluded opening week play with the Phillies beating the Braves 9-3; the Pirates also lost a valiant effort to the Dodgers, last year's champions, by a score of 8-7.

Ceremonies previous to the Saturday double header opened the North Torrance Babe Ruth league for a hectic ten weeks of ball playing.

McMasters Park Ivy League for boys eight to ten completed their second week of play Monday evening with wins going to the Cards, 7-6 over the Braves; the Tigers, 14-0 over Saint Catherines. The Indians and the Pirates

were idle for the evening.

In the first round of play, the Torrance National Saint Catherines managed a 6-5 win over the Cardinals with Robert McElroy credited with the victory. The Tigers defeated the Pirates 7-3. Carl Lascheh hurled for the winners. The final game saw the Braves score a 25-0 on a no-hitter that must be something of a record in Little League circles. Ricky Schwartz pitched the nine inning game for the Braves while David Erlanson homered for the winners.

With the season well under way, the Torrance National Little League pennant race is running close. The Stars are currently leading the pack with a record of 5 wins and 2 losses. The Cards are in second with a 4-3 card; and the rest of the loop in order is Phillies, 4-3; Yanks 4-3; Cubs 3-4; and the Braves at 1-6.

Minor league standings find the Cubs in first place followed by the Stars, Phillies, Braves, Cards, and the Yanks in that order.

Little League Teams Throughout City Keep Baseball Diamonds Hot

Play ball!

That's the shout heard in every corner of town these days as hundreds of the city's small fry gather on the Little League and Babe Ruth diamonds to begin their rounds of games.

On a typical evening you might catch a game between the Yankees and the Tigers, or the Giants and the Braves—or both.

Little League started modestly in Torrance half a dozen years ago with an eight-team league. From that grew other leagues, major and minor, until this summer more than a dozen leagues in all parts of the city and some overlapping city boundaries will be striving for city, district, and national championship honors.

Most city leagues now have both major and minor divisions, with about a hundred boys participating in each division—which, by a little simple addition, shows that more than 1000 Torrance boys are busy with baseball in most of their non-school hours these days.

Fields throughout the city have been built by fathers of the players and with service club and other

sponsors volunteering labor, materials, and, in many cases, sites for the facilities.

Diamonds have been built on industrial property, dump sites, unused city property, commercial property, and private fields through the cooperation of city businessmen and civic leaders who have taken an interest in the baseball education of the city's boys.

On a typical evening, you might see a member of the city council umpiring a game or coaching a team, or one of the city's leading industrialists or businessmen checking operations of the concession stand at each field.

Mothers of the players have formed auxiliaries to raise funds for the team expenses, and Little League dances, paper drives, carnivals, and parties are apt to be held at the drop of a hat to help with uniform, ball, and bat expenses.

Little League is more than a boys' game—with the whole family involved—sometimes almost around the clock—Little League becomes a way of life.

And those in the game up to their ears will tell you they've never been happier in their lives.

City Slates 'Skill Day' For Baseball

A baseball skill day will be held at Torrance Park beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday. It was announced here yesterday by the sponsoring Torrance Recreation Department.

Both boys and girls are being invited to participate in such skills as base running, baseball throwing, batting, and fielding.

Free movies will be shown during the program, and popcorn and punch will be served.



STRIKE THREE . . . Dave Harvey, Indians, takes a healthy swing for a strike-out in game with Orioles in Riviera Little League play at Kissel Field Saturday. Mike Mathews is backstop for Orioles. (Herald photo)